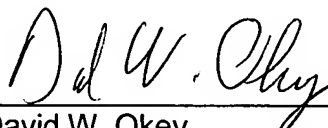


REMARKS

Applicants request the Examiner to enter this preliminary amendment and to advance the application to examination. The undersigned attorney respectfully requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned via telephone if such communication would be helpful to the Examiner or would expedite this application.

Respectfully submitted,

 Dec 3, 2003

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